Statement—II

Details regarding Quantities of Wheat Procured for Central Pool during Rabi Marketing Seasons 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 *and* 1993-94 *{upto December,* 1993)

(in '000 tonnes)

State/Union Territory	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93 (upto December 1993)	1993-94
Gujarat	—	—	—	Neg.
Haryana	2,595	1,834	1,372	3,454
Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—	1
Jammu & Kashmir	Neg.	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	Neg.		Neg.	242
Punjab	6,749	5,543	4,489	6,493
Rajasthan	135	8	22	496
Uttar Pradesh	1,584	368	497	2,128
Chandigarh	2		—	Neg.
Delhi	—		—	20
TOTAL :	11,066	7,753	6,380	12,834

Neg. : Below 500 tonnes.

Rationale Behind Rising Prices of Rice and Wheat Sold Through PDS

1599. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the rationale behind raising the prices of rice and wheat sold through Public Distribution System when the rise in procurement prices has been much less;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government owes Food Corporation of India a huge sum of Rs. 1,900 crores as arrears in subsidy payments and if so, what are the reasons for accumulating such huge arrears over the years, when the procurement prices were raised; and

(c) whether Government would consider working out a food subsidy rate directly linked with the GNP and ensure that this benefits the economically weaker sections of the Society ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALAP NATH RAI) : (a) The Cential issue prices (ex-FCI godown) of wheat and rice are revised by the Government from time to time to partially absorb the increases in the Minimum Support Price/Procurement Price of wheat and paddy payable to farmers and consequential increase in their procuiement cost. The Central issue prices of wheat and rice so fixed do not fully cover the economic cost of procured foodgrains.

(b) The arrear of Food subsidy payable to Food Corporation of India is over Rs. 1800 crores mainly due to delayed and inadequate revision of Central issue prices of foodgrains and consequential short provisioning in the Budget.

(c) Economically weaker sections of the Society are already covered under PDS and other welfare schemes viz. RPDS/ 1TDP, etc. and are being benefitted by

the food subsidy borne by the Central Government.

Allocation of Sugar to Maharashtra for Distribution Under PDS

1600. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criterion on which the quota of sugar is given to Maharashtra for distribution through P.D.S.;

(b) whether the figures of the 1991 census are taken into consideration for fixing up the said quota;

(c) if not, whether it will now be taken into consideration; and

(d) what is the total demand of sugar of Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RA1) : *(a)* Under the present policy of partial control, monthly allocations of levy sugar to most of tht States/UTs are being made on uniform norms of ensuring 425 gms. per capita monthly availability for projected population as on 1-10r86. These norms are effective from 1-2-1987. Accordingly, about 3.35 lakh tonnes of sugar is being allocated as levy for distribution under the Public Distribution System for the entire country. Government has also allowed 5% ad-hoc increase in the monthly levy allocations of all Stales/ UTs from August, 1991, which is being continued. In addition to the above, Government releases about 1 lakh tonnes per annum as festival quota which is allocatr ed to the Staies/UTs in proportion to their monthlylevy allocations. On the above abasis, levy sugar allocation for Maharashtra is as under :—

(i) Monthly normal quota . . .	29938 tonnes
(ii) Monthly 5% ad-hoc incicase (allowed from August, 1991).	1497 "
(iii) Festival quota for each year . .	9014 "

(b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, there is no proposal.

, (d) No demand for increasing the levy quota of Maharashtra has been teceived rom the State Government recently.

होटगी में भारतीय खाद्य निगम का गोदाम

1601. **श्री सुशील कुमार सम्भाजीराव शिन्दे** : क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि होटगी में भारतीय खाद्य निगम का गोदाम है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि होटगी रेलवे स्टेशन भी उक्त गोदाम के निकट है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो जो माल रेलगाड़ी के माध्यम से भेजा जाता है, उसे सोलापुर उतारने और फिर इसे गोदाम में रखने के लिए ट्रकों द्वारा होटगी भेजे जाने के क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) उस माल को होटगी स्टेशन पर ही न उतारे जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ङ) इस अपव्यय को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या-क्या कदम उठाना चाहती है ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्प नाथ राय) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते ।

Missing Trucks of F.C.I.

1602. PROF. V1JAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(i) whether it is a fact that 900 tiucks of the Food Corporation of India, laden with wheat and rice, were reported to be missing as appeared in the newspapers of 24th January 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether those trucks have been traced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAD : (a) 895 trucks of the Food Corporation of India earning foodgrains to Srinagar/ Valley remained unreconciled upto December, 1993.